

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO†

EXCERPTS FROM OUR STATE MEDICAL JOURNAL

Vol. XIII, No. 4, April, 1915

From Some Editorial Notes:

June 21; A. M. A. Session, San Francisco; Exposition.—Remember the time—the third week in June; the week beginning Monday, June 21. On Monday the House of Delegates begins its work and on Tuesday the scientific sections begin their programs in the afternoon, the forenoon being given over to the general public session at which various addresses are made (the Governor and the Mayor have been invited to speak) and the President-Elect, who at that time becomes the President, makes his presidential address. This meeting will be held in the Columbia Theater, but all other meetings will be held in the Auditorium building at the Civic Center. For your own sake and the sake of your patients, do not, if you can possibly help it, fail to take advantage of the opportunity presented to you this year; it will never occur again. The sessions of the American Medical Association are always instructive and more than well worthwhile; you cannot fail to profit from them. And the Exposition in itself is a liberal education to anyone. . . .

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Diphtheria Epidemic; Warning.—The epidemic of diphtheria in San Francisco brought forth some distinctly good things. It was made the subject of a discussion before the County Medical Society, and the School Directors, Health Board, etc., were invited to and did attend and participate. The school people wanted to know whether the medical people would advise the closing of the schools in which a number of cases had occurred, and were quite emphatically told "No"! The reasons for the "No" are well set forth in the paper read by Doctor Sawyer of the State Hygienic Laboratory, whose address is remarkable for the amount of valuable material contained in such small compass. . . .

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The Cancer Problem.—A special committee of the Pennsylvania State Medical Society has been working for some time on the problem of the reduction of cancer mortality. They have hit upon a rather novel plan to secure more interest on the part of physicians and have made the suggestion that every medical journal in the country devote its July issue to the subject of cancer and to run large advertisements relating thereto. If some of our members will prepare articles on the subject of cancer, we will be glad to run them in the July issue and make further comment on the campaign to reduce the mortality from this cause. Their proposed advertisement is as follows, and we take pleasure in running it in advance—and in this place:

PHYSICIANS

Will You Help Reduce Cancer Mortality?

Seventy-five thousand people die from cancer in the United States every year.

The public is gradually becoming alive to the "Cancer Menace" and will soon demand more active efforts from us. Are you doing all you can to diminish cancer mortality among your patients?

You can help by:

1. Always being on the watch to make an early diagnosis.
2. By insisting on proper treatment *without delay*.

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† This column strives to mirror the work and aims of colleagues who bore the brunt of Association activities some twenty-five years ago. It is hoped that such presentation will be of interest to both old and new members.

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA†

By CHARLES B. PINKHAM, M. D.

Secretary-Treasurer

Board Proceedings

At a regular meeting of the Board of Medical Examiners held at Independent Foresters Hall, 1329 South Hope Street, Los Angeles, the following changes were made in the status of the various licentiates:

Boyd, Harry W., M. D. On February 26, 1940, Board's action of February 8, 1939, revoking the license of Harry W. Boyd, M. D., was annulled in accordance with a court order and certificate restored as of the date of revocation.

Camos, Eugene S., licensed Drugless Practitioner, was on February 28, 1940, placed on five years probation, during which time he shall refrain from using in any business card or newspaper advertising other than his full name, character of license which he holds, address and telephone number.

Farley, Charles W., M. D. Alleged illegal operation. License revoked February 29, 1940.

Gregg, Wendell O., M. D. On February 27, 1940, placed on probation for a term of five years, with a proviso that he cease practice on February 27, 1940, and shall not resume practice until January 1, 1941; also that he live up to and abide by the terms of the probation and all the laws of the State of California and of the United States and that he abstain entirely from the use of any alcoholic beverages during the period of this probation and that he shall not apply for or have a Federal narcotic permit nor have narcotics in his possession during the period of probation and that he report at each annual meeting of the Board in Los Angeles during the term of his probation.

Karaki, Yasuzo, M. D. Charged with conviction of a crime involving moral turpitude. License revoked February 29, 1940.

Nelson, Eugene Curry, M. D. Alleged illegal operation. February 29, 1940, license revoked.

Owens, William R., M. D. Aiding and abetting. Placed on probation February 28, 1940, for a period of five years, with the proviso that he cease practice in thirty days after the beginning of this probation for a period of six months thereafter and that he live up to and abide by all the laws of the State of California and of the United States and report at each annual meeting of the Board held in Los Angeles during the period of his probation.

Robinson, John Marshall, Jr., M. D. Alleged illegal operation. License revoked February 29, 1940.

Waitzfelder, Frederick, M. D. February 27, 1940, probation for five years, without narcotic privileges. To obey all laws and report at each Los Angeles meeting.

Weld, James C., M. D. On February 26, 1940, the Board's action of July 13, 1939, revoking the license of James C. Weld was annulled in accordance with a court order and certificate restored as of the date of revocation.

Wilson, Daniel Russell, M. D. License revoked February 29, 1940.

Zuberbier, Roxy L., M. D. Placed on probation on February 28, 1940, for a period of five years, with the proviso that she cease practice and close her office for a period of six months, beginning thirty days after the effective date of this probation, that she live up to and abide by all laws and report at each annual meeting of the Board in Los Angeles during the term of probation.

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† The office addresses of the California State Board of Medical Examiners are printed in the roster on advertising page 6.

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TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

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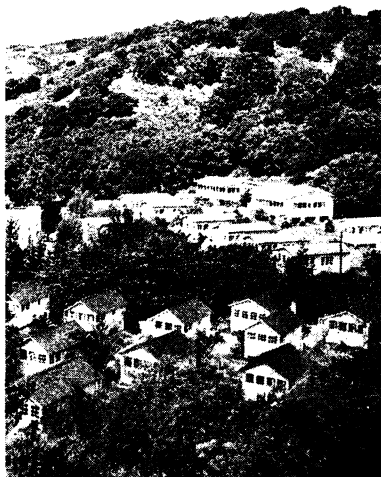
Register and Directory.—The cold, bony hand of fate seemed to have grasped and held for its very own, the last edition of the Register and Directory! Never were there so many changes and corrections to be made; never before did things seem to pile up just at the wrong time and cause delay after delay. The book which should have been issued last October or November, did not come from the press till the first week in March, and this in spite of everything that it was possible to do to hurry it along. But at last it is out and a copy has been delivered or mailed to every member of the Society. If some there be who were annoyed at the delay, will they please bear in mind the possible degree of annoyance to everyone in the State Society office—and forgive!

Medical Defense Discussion.—Two communications of importance have been received in answer to the request to our members to set forth their views on the subject of medical defense by the Society and the rules pertaining thereto. . . .

Doctor Juilly brings up a number of detail points and they are open for discussion. Does it work a hardship on any physician to require that he shall not sue to collect an account within one year without first putting his case and account before the Council? . . . And as a matter of business sense, is it wise to pay out \$500 to \$1,000 in order to collect fifty or a hundred? . . . The fundamental principle of the rules that have been made is, as stated, to protect the careful members against the burden which might be placed upon them by the careless or inconsiderate members. Insurance companies do not "take all our risks for a certain

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yearly premium"; they get out of every case they can if they can find the slightest technicality. Over and over again the State Society has taken care of a member who had insurance but the company said the case did not come within their policy provisions. . . .

From an Original Article on "The Reduction of Diphtheria Morbidity," by Wilbur A. Sawyer, M. D., Director of the Hygienic Laboratory of the California State Board of Health.—The introduction of diphtheria antitoxin into general use in 1894 was followed in the next few years by a rapid decline in the mortality from this disease. The number of deaths from diphtheria decreased by from 50 to 75 per cent. The direct relation of this decrease to the use of antitoxin was shown by the coincident drop in the mortality in many different cities whose experiences with diphtheria were otherwise dissimilar. With a curative agent so efficient as diphtheria antitoxin the number of deaths should have been reduced to a very small fraction of the total number of cases, but the rapid initial fall due to antitoxin has ceased. During the last decade the number of deaths has remained nearly at equilibrium, at about 10 per cent of the reported cases. A slight fall in this mortality as compared with the number of reported cases has occurred in recent years. It is, no doubt, largely due to a still greater use of antitoxin, and to a more complete reporting of the milder cases. . . .

From an Original Article on "Hematogenous Kidney Infections," by Granville MacGowan, M. D., Los Angeles.—In all infectious diseases bacteria enter the blood and pass out through the kidneys. If they are few and are not

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THE POTTENGER SANATORIUM AND CLINIC

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**Physicians' and Surgeons'
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TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

(Continued from Page 22)

especially virulent no infection takes place, but if they are abundant, attached to debris which has become separated from the purulent focus in which they have their origin and they are of virulent strain, and one or both kidneys are injured or diseased, and there is a concomitant obstruction to the free exit of urine from the kidney, either temporary or permanent, along the ureter or within its walls, or within the bladder or in the urethra, there will surely result a renal infection which may cause a severe and overwhelming toxemia and rapid death, or a slow infection with or without suppuration. . . .

From an Original Article on "The Carrier Problem in Diphtheria," by W. H. Kellogg, M. D., San Francisco.—A comparatively recent development of sanitary science is the discovery that mild unrecognized cases and healthy carriers are a very important source of new infections. Carriers are persons who harbor within their bodies pathogenic bacteria, without suffering from the disease themselves. They may be carriers by reason of the fact that they have recently recovered from an infection and the bacteria still persist within them, or they may never have had the disease, but have acquired the organisms by association with other carriers or cases. . . .

From Pacific Association of Railway Surgeons; Important Notice of Meeting.—The Pacific Association of Rail-


way Surgeons will hold its annual meeting on Friday afternoon, June 25, 1915.

As the American Medical Association will be in convention in San Francisco at the same time (June 21 to June 25, inclusive) and many papers will be read in their Scientific Section, it has been decided to omit the usual Scientific Section at the Railway Surgeons' meeting this year. . . .

From Society Reports. Kern County.—At the meeting of the County Medical Society (Kern County), on February 15, 1915, among other things that came up was the matter of outside physicians doing work which properly should come under the County Physician, but on account of the size of the county, etc., was impossible until such time as they were removed to the County Hospital. Now under the County Government Act, the supervisors have not authority to pay any physician other than as a salary to the County Physician for such services. So that it was duly moved and seconded and unanimously carried, that a communication be sent to the secretary of the State Society to see if the attorney for the State Society could not draw a bill as an amendment to the County Government Act to allow a physician pay for such services to indigent patients if authorized by the County Physician or the supervisor of the district, or by any other legal means available.

The Kern County Medical Society would appreciate it if you would take it up. Also our assemblyman from this district, I think, would introduce it in the Assembly.

Very truly yours,
Signed: C. H. MORRIS,
Chairman, Committee on Legislation.



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From the Harrison Law a National Obligation.—Both newspaper comments and professional criticisms indicate that there is much misunderstanding of the Harrison law, which has just gone into effect. Many physicians have not fully grasped its purpose. A brief statement of the history of the law may, perhaps, be of value.

The Harrison law is not the result of any sudden spasmodic impulse on the part of Congress. It is, on the contrary, a part of a carefully considered program for the control of the traffic in habit-forming drugs and especially in opium. This movement is not confined to this country; it is international, although the United States, it is a pleasure to record, has been the leader in the movement. . . .

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

(Continued from Text Page 202)

The following Requests for Restoration were granted: Lustberg, Samuel R., M. D. Restored February 26, 1940, and placed on probation for a period of five years. To report at each regular meeting in Los Angeles.

Young, William H., M. D. Restored February 26, 1940, and placed on five years' probation. To report at each regular meeting in San Francisco.

A total of 83 applicants wrote the examination, comprising physicians and surgeons from various medical schools (both foreign and domestic), as well as drugless practitioners.

News

"The strange case of Dr. Clyde A. Pierson was 'one for the books' today as records of three consecutive unsuccessful

(Continued on Next Page)

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